

RAISE IT UP!

STAR-SPANGLED BANNER ☆ 1814-2014



Media Contacts:

Susan Lamb, Museum of History, 919-807-7943, susan.lamb@ncdcr.gov

B.J. Davis, Museum of History, 919-807-7996, bj.davis@ncdcr.gov

Melinda Machado, Smithsonian, 202-633-3129, machadom@si.edu

Participate at the N.C. Museum of History!

N.C. Museum of History Partners with Smithsonian for a Nationwide Singing of the National Anthem to Celebrate Star-Spangled Banner Bicentennial

Americans will “Raise It Up!” on **Flag Day, Saturday, June 14**, and come together to participate in **potentially the largest unified event in American history**, turning the national anthem into “the song that was heard around the world.” The **N.C. Museum of History** in Raleigh is proud to be a national partner and encourages you to participate in **Raise It Up! Anthem for America**, a global celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Star-Spangled Banner and the lyrics penned in 1814 by Francis Scott Key after the victorious Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812. Led by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History from the National Mall in Washington, D.C., the vision is for Americans across the country and around the world to stop at the same time at **4 p.m.** and **sing the national anthem.**

Experience this once-in-a-lifetime event at the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, on June 14. At the museum, watch the **live webcast** of the Smithsonian’s sing-along concert in Washington, D.C., on its National Mall Terrace **from 2:30 to 4 p.m.** This will culminate in a **“moment of national unity” at 4 p.m.**, when Americans around the globe will sing “The Star-Spangled Banner.” **Raise It Up! Anthem for America** will include musical performances from America’s top artists and the singing of American patriotic songs by national music groups. Admission and weekend parking are free at the N.C. Museum of History.

The National Museum of American History is home to the Star-Spangled Banner, the flag that inspired the national anthem. Made in the summer of 1813 by Mary Pickersgill (1776-1857), a professional flag maker, the flag was originally 30 feet by 42 feet with 15 red and white wool stripes and 15 cotton stars on the blue canton. After the war, the flag was privately owned

for many years until Eben Appleton lent it to the Smithsonian Institution in 1907 and converted the loan to a gift in 1912. Beginning in 1998, the Star-Spangled Banner underwent extensive conservation treatment. It is now on display in a custom-built, environmentally controlled chamber at the museum.

More information about **Raise It Up! Anthem for America** is available at www.anthemforamerica.si.edu.

Other June 14 Museum Programs

Take advantage of two drop-in programs on June 14 from noon to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

Artist at Work: Alyssa Hinton

Hinton is an internationally known mixed-media artist inspired by her North Carolina Indian heritage. Watch her create vibrantly colored work that combines Native American tradition with a contemporary edge.

Hinton has received numerous prestigious awards for her art. She addresses themes of Native American culture and human kinship with nature, reflecting her deep reverence for the environment and the mysteries of the cosmos.

Make It, Take It: Mix That Media!

Watch Alyssa Hinton during her Artist at Work program, then create a simple mixed-media picture to take home. Meet this internationally known mixed-media artist whose work is inspired by her North Carolina Indian heritage.

For information about the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian-affiliated museum, call 919-807-7900 or access www.ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+ or YouTube.

About the N.C. Museum of History

The N.C. Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 300,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources.

About the National Museum of American History

Through incomparable collections, rigorous research and dynamic public outreach, the museum explores the infinite richness and complexity of American history and helps people understand the past in order to make sense of the present and shape a more humane future. It is currently renovating its west exhibition wing, developing galleries on business, democracy and culture. For more information, visit <http://americanhistory.si.edu>.

About the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources

The N.C. Department of Cultural Resources (NCDCCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's cultural resources to build the social, cultural and economic future of

North Carolina. Led by Secretary Susan W. Kluttz, NCDCCR's mission to enrich lives and communities creates opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history and libraries in North Carolina that will spark creativity, stimulate learning, preserve the state's history and promote the creative economy. NCDCCR was the first state organization in the nation to include all agencies for arts and culture under one umbrella.

Through arts efforts led by the N.C. Arts Council, the N.C. Symphony and the N.C. Museum of Art, NCDCCR offers the opportunity for enriching arts education for young and old alike and economic stimulus engines for our state's communities. NCDCCR's Divisions of Archives and Records, State Historic Sites, and State History Museums preserve, document and interpret North Carolina's rich cultural heritage. NCDCCR's State Library of North Carolina is the principal library of state government and builds the capacity of all libraries in our state, developing and supporting access to traditional and online collections such as genealogy and resources for the blind and physically handicapped.

NCDCCR annually serves more than 19 million people through its 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, the nation's first state-supported symphony orchestra, the State Library, the N.C. Arts Council and the State Archives of North Carolina. NCDCCR champions our state's creative industry that accounts for more than 300,000 jobs and generates nearly \$18.5 billion in revenues. For more information, please call [919-807-7300](tel:919-807-7300) or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

#